



KANSAS



FLOODPLAIN MANAGEMENT NEWSLETTER

October 2005

KAFM Annual Conference

The Kansas Association for Floodplain Management had their annual conference September 7-8, 2005, at the Holidome in Manhattan.

Kirk Miller, vice chair of the Kansas Association for Floodplain Management, thanked all participants for attending the conference and introduced the keynote speaker, Tracy Streeter. Tracy discussed the importance of understanding breach impact areas, and explained what floodplain managers can do to be aware of and plan for development in the breach impact areas.

Conference sessions covered *Gathering and Using GIS data in Your Community*, *General National Flood Insurance Program Topics*, *NFIP Training*, and *Map Modernization in Kansas*. Three breakout sessions were included for each topic.

Regarding *Gathering and Using GIS data in Your Community*, Steve Higgins from Riley County presented information on Riley County's DFIRM and shared the county's website information. He also discussed how the county uses the GIS information available from the DFIRM product. Mike Eddings from AMEC Earth and Environmental explained FEMA's HAZUS-Multi-Hazard application to estimate potential losses from earthquakes, floods and hurricanes. Rod Odom and Tony Dudley from Watershed Concepts explained how communities can enhance the data they already gather, such as topographic data or stormwater data, to use in floodplain mapping to improve their community's Digital Flood Insurance Rate Map.

Under *General National Flood Insurance Program Topics*, Kelly Dixon from Sedgwick County discussed lessons learned through their floodplain education project. Kelly shared information that was sent to those living in a flood risk area in unincorporated Sedgwick County. Rhonda Montgomery from the Division of Water Resources discussed community compliance with floodplain management regulations. Steve McMaster from the Nebraska Department of Natural Resources explained requirements related to major funding opportunities available through FEMA to communities to mitigate against future flood losses.

In the *NFIP Training* breakout sessions, Collin Olsen from the Division of Water Resources discussed Letters of Map Changes and distributed information for communities to help residents with the Letters of Map Amendment-Out as Shown process. Sonja Wood with Computer Sciences Corporation (FEMA's NFIP Bureau and Statistical Agent) provided step-by-step training on FEMA's Elevation Certificate. Joe Remondini from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers-Tulsa District discussed various floodproofing opportunities to help local communities address their flood risks.

KAFM Annual Conference Review (continued)

In the last session, Map Modernization in Kansas, Rick Miller from Douglas County presented information on Douglas County's process to integrate flood hazard data from the workmap product into the community's existing GIS system to allow other departments access and to use the information. Collin Olsen discussed the opportunities for communities to become Cooperating Technical Partners to allow them to become active in the mapping initiative in their community. Shanna Bates with Watershed Concepts and Kent Lage with Johnson County discussed educating residents about map adoption. Shanna discussed the map adoption process, and Kent shared his experience and of educating residents and community officials about flood hazard mapping in Johnson County.

The KAFM conference closed with the general membership meeting and election of officers. The membership voted to elect Kirk Miller, KE Miller and Associates, as the chair, Dennis Lawlor, AMEC Earth and Environmental, as the vice chair, Steve Higgins with Riley County as the secretary, and Jon Bristol, Sumner County, as the treasurer.

Please review the pictures on page 3

Welcome new floodplain staff...

The Kansas Department of Agriculture Division of Water Resource's Floodplain Program is excited to welcome a new staff member to the floodplain team.

Tom Morey joined the Division of Water Resources on August 29, 2005. Tom is providing support to the Map Modernization Initiative as well as providing technical assistance to communities through community visits and training. Tom's contact information is email at tmorey@kda.state.ks.us or phone at (785) 296-5440.

Information session for communities identified by FEMA as having special flood hazard area and not participating in the National Flood Insurance Program

State floodplain staff will schedule discussion sessions around Kansas to provide information to communities that currently do not participate in the National Flood Insurance Program. The sessions are intended for elected officials and community staff.

The session agenda includes the following topics

- * Explanation of the National Flood Insurance Program
- * Obligations of a participating community
- * Obligations of FEMA for participating communities
- * Benefits of participation in the NFIP

The three-hour sessions are scheduled from 9 a.m. to noon as follows:

Topeka	January 31, 2006,
Atwood	April 12, 2006
Garnett	May 9, 2006
Meade	May 11, 2006

If you want to attend please contact Rhonda Montgomery at (785) 296-4622 or e-mail at rmontgomery@kda.state.ks.us. We will distribute a flier and a registration form to communities that have a special flood hazard area but do not participate in the NFIP.

Pictures from the 2005 Kansas Floodplain Managers' Conference



Collin Olsen discusses the CTP Program in Kansas.



Gary Haddock studies his conference agenda while Mike Eddings and Berry Lutz share a laugh.



Kent Lage explains Johnson County flooding pictures.



Mike Eddings presents information on FEMA's HAZUS Multi Hazard product.



Steve Higgins discusses Riley County's DFIRM map.



The Charades, a barbershop quartet from Manhattan, provided entertainment Wednesday evening.

Example of newspaper article for communities participating in the NFIP

Floodplain Management Program staff have created a sample news release that you can use to let residents in your community know they are eligible for federally backed flood insurance. The purpose is to inform residents that if they live in a participating community of the NFIP, anyone has the opportunity to purchase federally-backed flood insurance and that those that want to develop or modify land in a flood zone must comply with local regulations. If you have questions about the sample release, or you would like it in an electronic format, please contact Rhonda Montgomery at (785) 296-4622.

Property owners in <county name> County are eligible for flood insurance

<Name of your floodplain administrator and title for your community> is reminding owners of property in unincorporated areas of <county name> County that they are eligible to purchase federally backed flood insurance because <name of community> participates in the National Flood Insurance Program.

“Nationally, about 20 percent to 25 percent of flood insurance claims come from people who own property that’s not in the flood zone,” <name of floodplain administrator> said. “We participate in the National Flood Insurance Program so our residents are eligible to purchase insurance protection against losses due to a flood regardless of whether they live in a floodplain or not. Homeowner’s insurance does not cover damages from flooding; however, flood insurance pays claims for any flood event, regardless of a presidential disaster declaration.”

The National Flood Insurance Program was created by Congress in 1968 to counter the rising cost of taxpayer-funded disaster relief for flood victims. It is managed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

Nearly 20,000 communities across the U.S. participate in the NFIP by adopting and enforcing floodplain management ordinances to reduce future flood damage. In exchange, the NFIP makes federally backed flood insurance available to homeowners, renters and business owners in these communities.

To participate in the National Flood Insurance Program, <name of community> must issue a floodplain development permit to any property owner building, developing or modifying structures in flood-prone areas. The proposal also must comply with local regulations.

Residents who have questions about <name of community>'s participation in the NFIP, or the requirements to develop in the floodplain, should contact <name of floodplain administrator> At (XXX) XXX-XXXX.

More about the National Flood Insurance Program is available online at www.fema.gov/nfip/.

<Name of community>’s flood maps can be reviewed at <name of office> at <street address> or on FEMA’s website at www.store.msc.fema.gov.

Training Opportunities

The Floodplain Management Program will host the following training sessions throughout Kansas. There is no charge for training.

Basics of the National Flood Insurance Program

This training opportunity is for local officials responsible for administering their local floodplain management ordinance. The focus is on the NFIP and concepts of floodplain management, maps and studies, ordinance administration, and the relationship between floodplain management and flood insurance.

- ◆ Emporia- March 8, 2006, 9 a.m. to 1p.m.
- ◆ Salina- July 11, 2006, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Advanced floodplain management concepts

This training is designed to discuss floodplain management techniques that exceed FEMA's minimum National Flood Insurance Program standards. In communities that exceed FEMA's minimum standards and incorporate a proactive approach to floodplain management, the community reduces its flood losses and lessens its liability by addressing floodplain management from a public safety and natural resource protection standpoint.

The training will discuss advanced floodplain management topics such as ASFPM's No Adverse Impact concepts and the natural and beneficial functions of floodplains. Participants also will explore multi-objective management concepts that incorporate watershed planning in a multi-disciplinary approach such as stream corridor restoration, wetland protection, and water quality functions while addressing floodplain management needs.

- ◆ Topeka- January 11, 2006, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Post-Flood Responsibilities/Residential Substantial Damage Estimator Training

The morning session will focus on providing guidance to local permit officials about tasks associated with a flood event, including pre-flood preparation and post-flood responsibilities. Whether or not your community has experienced a flood, it will happen, and you need the tools to respond to the event and ensure that all post-flood reconstruction in your community's floodplain is compliant.

The afternoon session will include a discussion on determining substantial damage of structures in the special flood hazard area following a disaster event. In addition, participants will receive hands-on training using FEMA's Residential Substantial Damage Estimator software, which provides guidance in estimating building value and damage costs for both single-family and manufactured homes. Based on the regulatory requirements of the NFIP, it is intended to be used in conjunction with industry-accepted residential cost estimating guides. The guidance document provides information on how to use the software, as well as how to collect data and conduct field inspections.

- ◆ Manhattan- April 25, 2006, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- ◆ Pittsburg- April 27, 2006, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Role of the Floodplain Administrator

This one-day training is designed to review the expectation that the NFIP has for your community's floodplain manager. Discussion items will include NFIP regulations, maps and data, permit requirements, elevation certificates, buildings in A zones, ordinance review, inspections, enforcement and appeals, special uses and variances.

- ◆ Lawrence- February 21, 2006, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- ◆ Newton- February 23, 2006, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Letter of Map Change Training

The workshop objective will be to outline in detail the fundamental requirements for submitting a request for a Letter of Map Amendment (LOMA), Letter of Map Revision Based on Fill (LOMA-F), Letter of Map Revision (LOMR), and a Conditional Letter of Map Revision (CLOMR).

Participants will leave the workshop with a number of handouts that outline the application process. All forms needed to apply for a map revision will be available.

- ◆ Salina- March 21, 2006, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- ◆ Wichita- March 22, 2006, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Kansas Department of Agriculture
Division of Water Resources
Floodplain Program
Training Registration Form

Name _____

Title _____

Organization _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____ Fax _____

E-mail _____

Name, date and location of training you will attend _____

***Please share this invitation with any others that may benefit from the training.

Please mail or fax your registration to:

Kansas Department of Agriculture
Floodplain Management Program
109 SW 9th Street, 2nd Floor
TOPEKA, KS 66612-1283

Fax to: (785) 296-4835

If you have questions about training, please contact Rhonda Montgomery at
rmontgomery@kda.state.ks or (785) 296-4622, or Tom Morey at
tmorey@kda.state.ks.us or (785) 296-5440.

Please help us keep our records up to date. If your floodplain manager is different than the name that appears on this newsletter, please call (785) 296-4622, or send e-mail to rmontgomery@kda.state.ks.us to inform us of the change.

Also, if your mayor or city clerk has changed, please let us know.

Thank you.

046-08
Kansas Department of Agriculture
Division of Water Resources
Floodplain Management
109 SW 9th Street 2nd Floor
Topeka KS 66612-1283

Funds available to attend the ASFPM June 11-16, 2006 National Conference in Albuquerque

The 2006 ASFPM National Conference “*Floodplain Management Crossroads: Where Route 66 meets the Rio Grande*” will be June 11-16, 2006 in Albuquerque. This conference is an excellent opportunity for Kansas floodplain managers to receive premier training on mapping technologies, on adopting new flood hazard maps, and to discuss topics directly related to mapping and Map Modernization. The conference will be attended by nearly 1,000 floodplain management professionals and officials.

To help you attend this important event, Kansas is making funds available to defray your costs. Funds will be available through FEMA’s Map Modernization Management Support grant and will provide up to \$1,000 each for 10 community officials.

If you are interested in attending the conference and would benefit from financial assistance, please contact Tom Morey at tmorey@kda.state.ks.us, or (785) 296-5440. Tom has application forms available and will distribute those forms as requested by community officials. Assistance awards will be granted on a first-come, first-served basis.

Staff of the KDA/DWR Water Structures Floodplain Program

Rhonda Montgomery, CFM, NFIP Coordinator	(785) 296-4622	rmontgomery@kda.state.ks.us
Collin Olsen, CFM, Floodplain Mapping Specialist	(785) 296-2513	colsen@kda.state.ks.us
Tom Morey, NFIP Specialist	(785) 296-5440	tmorey@kda.state.ks.us

Mailing Address:

109 SW 9th Street, 2nd Floor
Topeka, KS 66612-1283
Fax: (785) 296-4835
www.ksda.gov